## DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY



HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY ALASKA 600 RICHARDSON DRIVE #5000 FORT RICHARDSON, ALASKA 99505-5000

APVR-RJA

17 DEC 2007

## MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: United States Army Alaska (USARAK) Hazing Policy (CG Policy Statement #0-17)

- 1. Purpose. To establish and delineate the USARAK Hazing Policy.
- 2. Applicability. All military members and Department of Defense (DoD) civilian employees assigned or attached to USARAK.
- 3. Definition. Hazing is defined as any conduct whereby one military member or employee, regardless of service or rank, unnecessarily causes another military member or employee, regardless of service or rank, to suffer or be exposed to an activity which is cruel, abusive, oppressive, or harmful. Soliciting or coercing another to engage in hazing constitutes hazing. Hazing may be physical, verbal, or psychological in nature and may occur on or off duty, in social or official settings, and on or off the installation.
- 4. Policy. Hazing of military members or DoD civilian employees by other military members or DoD civilian employees is strictly prohibited. Consent of the victim is not a defense to a violation of this policy.
- 5. Examples of hazing include pounding newly earned air assault wings into a soldier's chest (or any similar form of initiation that involves physically striking another in order to inflict pain or that pierces another's skin) or abusing a soldier newly arrived from Advanced Individual Training by spray painting him while asleep, abandoning him in a remote location on the installation, or tricking him into violating a commander's order. Hazing also includes tattooing, branding, shaving, or forcing the consumption of food and alcohol as well as encouraging another to engage in illegal, harmful, demeaning or dangerous acts.
- 6. The prohibition against hazing does not affect command authorized mission or operational activities, training required to conduct such missions, administrative corrective actions, extra military instruction, command authorized physical training, and other similar activities authorized by the chain of command which are not unnecessarily cruel, abusive, oppressive, or harmful.

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- 7. Command responsibilities. All commanders and directors will ensure that this policy is effectively communicated to every military member and civilian employee under their command or supervision. Enforcement of this policy is a responsibility of commanders and supervisors at all levels. Commanders and supervisors will devote particular attention to graduation or advancement ceremonies as well as other occasions or settings which might put soldiers at risk for voluntary or involuntary hazing. Commanders and supervisors will ensure that military members and civilian employees understand they should avoid engaging in actions which give rise to an appearance that they have engaged in an activity which constitutes hazing.
- 8. Command options. This policy is punitive in nature. Accordingly, violators are subject to punitive action under the Uniform Code of Military Justice to include Article 92 (Failure to obey a lawful general order), Article 93 (Cruelty and maltreatment), Article 124 (Maiming), and Article 128 (Assault). Civilian employees who violate this policy may also be subject to adverse action and discipline in accordance with applicable regulations. Commanders should seek the advice of their legal counsel when contemplating action under this paragraph.
- 9. Members of this command must be treated with the respect and dignity due a member of America's fighting force. The practice of demeaning and cruel treatment of soldiers and civilians will not be tolerated. I expect every leader within USARAK to be proactive in the prevention of hazing incidents.

JCHN M. BROWN III Major General, USA

Commanding

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